

Subject
File
1970-76
77F
Box 11
File
Kagnew

CLASSIFIED



Department of State
TELEGRAM

DCM FILE
Kagnew

INDICATE:
☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

10332
171213Z SEP 73

DISTRIBUTION

AMB
CHARGE-2
POL
POL/A
MAAG
DATT
FSI
Chron
3/70

ACTION:
E.O. 11652 : GDS
TAGS : PFOR, MARR, ET, UK, US
ACTION : SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3894
INFO : AmEmbassy LONDON IMMEDIATE 1095
AmConsul ASMARA IMMEDIATE 4517
CINCEUR
NAVCOMMSTA
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT

~~SECRET~~ ADDIS ABABA 10332

LIMDIS

SUBJECT : Kagnew Station Withdrawal
(A)
REF : STATE 181336; (B) STATE 182901

1. In audience with the Emperor September 17, I conveyed contents of paras 2 through 5 of reftel (A) and para 2 of reftel (B). Both Foreign Minister and Minister of interrupted Palace took full notes. HIM interrupted FonMin's translation several times to make sure he had thoroughly

DRAFTED BY: PDWyman: aag
DRAFTING DATE: 9/17/73
TELETYPE: 10332
APPROVED BY: Charge - Parker D. Wyman
CLEARANCES:

CLASSIFIED

understood.

2. In response to my statement, HIM expressed his appreciation for this information. Just as the USG had carefully considered rationale for withdrawing from Kagnev, so he and his government would now need to consider very carefully what the implications of this withdrawal would be for his government and its relations with the USG, for there would surely be some. The technological and financial reasons I had cited for the decision were ones which he well understood and the decision was one which only the USG could make. Now his government would wish to study carefully the consequences of that decision. It was his hope that there would be no adverse effects on the relations of deep ~~friendship~~ friendship which had existed for so long between the two governments. He wished President Nixon to be informed that he and his government would certainly do their best in this respect. As for the future disposition of the facilities at Kagnev, his government would of course be prepared to discuss this subject with appropriate USG representatives.

3. I replied that I appreciated His Majesty's sentiments, particularly his hope for a continuation of very friendly

~~SECRET~~

Classification

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
May 4, 2006

CLASSIFIED

relations, and that they would be conveyed to the President.

I also said I was fully confident from the US standpoint that the longstanding friendship would be continued in the future.

4. In conclusion His Majesty expressed the wish that our governments stay in close touch with each other in the future regarding developments at Kagnew.

5. Comment : The Emperor obviously regarded the decision on Kagnew as one which has serious implications for Ethiopia U.S.-Ethiopian and for ~~Ethiopian-American~~ relations. Moreover, in his three references to the absence of adverse effects of this decision on future US-Ethiopian relations, he invariably used the word "hope" rather than "confidence". It seemed clear to me that, as was to be expected, His Majesty has ~~serious~~ doubts whether US support for Ethiopia will be as wholehearted in the ~~future~~ future as it has been in the past.

6. I hope the Department will now provide the proposed press ~~x~~ guidance on this subject soonest so that we can clear it with the Foreign Ministry. Public release of this information will be of great assistance in forestalling ~~hindering~~ inaccurate rumors, ~~complicating~~ ELF attempts to exploit the situation, and expediting the initiation of the complicated

SECRET

Classification

FORM PS-41200

CLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
May 4, 2006

withdrawal process. We cannot be certain that IEG will
hold information on Kagnev decision closely both here
and in Asmara, and it will be awkward trying to respond
to queries on the subject prior to availability of press
release agreed with IEG. Embassy plans decline comment
if queried before then.

WYMAN
pm

Parker D. Wyman, Charge

1981.

~~SECRET~~
Classification

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
May 4, 2006